

P O Box 103  
Mingenew 6522

19<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Economic Regulation Authority  
GPO Box 8469  
Perth Business Centre  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6849

Dear Sir,

Herewith our submission on the Inquiry on School Bus Operators' Charter Bus Operations for your consideration.

- Majority of orange school buses in small country towns only do school based curriculum excursions e.g. school swimming lessons, sports carnivals, educational excursions
- Small country town without any local charter buses - nearest charter service is 110 kms.
- Local primary school and community would suffer if they had to hire outside charter bus
- Do charter bus companies have to comply with safety standards as does the orange school bus - two random inspections per year?
- Does the charter bus industry have to comply with "Working With Children Legislation"?
- First Aid Certificates?
- Bus Aides when necessary?

The points that we have raised are just a few and when looking at the *big picture* should definitely be taken into consideration, as any changes would have detrimental affects on the very fabric of small country towns and communities.

Marguerite & Murray Pearce  
MINGENEW WEST RUN

c.c. Transport Forum School Bus Division – Wally Gargano  
Mingenew Primary School Principal – Paul Luxton